MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., SEPTEMBER 16, 1930

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1931 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Tuesday, September 16, 1930; the following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Garfield,
Mr. Morris,
Mr. Vitale,
Mr. Winter,
Mr. Weinman,
and H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS: The minutes of the meetings held July 1, 1930 and July 23, 1930, were approved.

2. WAKEFIELD: The Secretary stated that during the past two months much progress has been made in the restoration of George Washington's birthplace at Wakefield, which is to be completed for the Bicentennial celebration in 1932. A comprehensive report on the progress made so far has just been received from the National Park Service (Exhibit A).

In talking with Mr. Taylor, Engineer in Charge, the Secretary stated that Mr. Taylor expressed a desire that the Commission of Fine Arts inspect the work at Wakefield some time in October. On the recommendation of the Secretary, the Commission accordingly agreed to hold the next meeting in Washington, October 16 and 17, and to go to Wakefield on Friday, the 17th.

3. MEDAL TO COMMEMORATE THE YELLOW FEVER DISCOVERY BY WALTER REED AND OTHERS: Revised sketches prepared by Tom Jones, Sculptor, for the medal to commemorate the discovery by Walter Reed and others of the cause and means of transmission of yellow fever were received and given consideration. Two sketches of the head of Walter Reed were made for the obverse and for the reverse a design entitled "Draining a Swamp" and a caduceus.

The Secretary stated that Surgeon General Ireland submitted data on the Walter Reed discovery and that he sent this to Mr. Jones; on receipt of the sketches he sent a set of prints of them to Surgeon General Ireland for comment. Surgeon General Ireland's criticisms have been received. (Exhibit B).

The Commission thereupon considered the Act of Congress authorizing the execution of this medal (Exhibit B-1), and reaffirmed their opinion that it should not be called a Walter Reed Medal in view of the fact that those who were associated with Walter Reed are also mentioned in the Act and are also to receive a medal.

Mr. Weinman suggested that the figure on the obverse be symbolic to stress the idea of what this group of scientists accomplished in the yellow fever menace; that the reverse be arranged to show a simple design with space for the names of the recipients mentioned in the Act. A simple inscription can be placed on the border. The Commission concurred in this and Mr. Weinman said he would bring these suggestions to the attention of Mr. Jones.

4. LEIF ERICSSON STATUE: The Secretary of the Commission brought to the attention of the Commission a memorandum on the Leif Ericsson Statue, informing them as to the personal call of Senator Norbeck and Representative Burtness on the matter of the location of the statue of Leif Ericsson in Iceland, as follows:

September 5, 1930.

Senator Peter Norbeck of South Dakota and Representative Alger B. Burtness of North Dakota called yesterday, after having visited the Department of State, for an interview regarding the Leif Ericsson Statue. Both Senator Norbeck and Representative Burtness are agreed that the heretofore suggested site on a high hill some distance from the city is not an appropriate one for the statue. They suggest one of two locations, mentioned in the telegram from Senator Norbeck to the State Department, dated July 1, 1930:

(1) On Jonson Museum Hill, half a kilometer east of Parliament House.

(2) On hill half mile south of museum within proposed city park.

The statue at either of these locations will not be on a high hill but will be within areas frequented by the people of Reykjavik. The Commission of Fine Arts can select either one of the sites after receiving the photographs which have been requested by Senator Norbeck from Einar Jonsson and are now on the way to Washington. Both the Senator and the Congressman are delighted with Mr. Calder's sketch of Leif Ericsson and feel it will be a most appropriate gift to the people of Iceland from the United States. The two sites mentioned would give the statue a location in keeping with its size.

As for a description of the two locations mentioned, the one near the museum is at a site designated for a city park. A large cathedral is to be built there some time in the near future but there has been nothing definite done in the way of building it at this time. This site is favored by Einar Jonsson since the statue at this location would not be very far from the museum. The other location is in a rather open space overlooking the bay at a point which is considered a part of the city of Reykjavik. The land is not now owned by the Icelandic Government but there seems to be no difficulty about acquiring the site in case it should be selected for the statue.

As matters stand, the statue of Leif Ericsson, executed according to the design of Mr. Calder, could be placed appropriately at either of the two locations above mentioned. Also as above stated, it will be agreeable to Senator Norbeck and Congressman Burtness for the Commission of Fine Arts to select either one of these two locations. Site (1) "On Jonson Museum Hill, half a kilometer east of Parliament House" would seem to be preferable as the statue at this location would be near an open space on slightly elevated ground overlooking the harbor and at a place frequented by the residents of Reykjavik.

The Commission decided to await the photographs of the two locations mentioned but felt the recommendation of Einar Jonsson as to location would be the one to follow in conjunction with the views of Mr. Calder on the subject. A letter was read from Mr. Calder (Exhibit C), saying that he is awaiting the action of the Commission in the matter of location of the statue.

5. COVERING FOR STANDS AT WESTERN AND EASTERN MARKETS. Mr. A. L. Harris, Municipal Architect, submitted a sketch for proposed market sheds at the Western Market at 21st and K Streets and the Eastern Market at 7th and C Streets. They are to be metal sheds and in his opinion would be unsightly at this location.

Mr. Moore said K Street is one of the important thoroughfares of Washington and such permanent sheds as proposed should not be permitted. The Commission concurred in this and the design was disapproved.

Mr. Moore called attention to the wholesale markets now being built near the Baltimore and Ohio freight terminal in northeast Washington and one near the Pennsylvania Railroad Yards in southeast Washington, both of which are being completed. The Western Market needs remodeling but it would be still better to tear it down and build a new one; at any rate, it ought to be brought up-to-date.

6. OSCAR STRAUS MEMORIAL. Mr. David Hinshaw of the Oscar Straus Memorial Association appeared before the Commission and said he was glad to inform the Commission of the fact that the Board of Architectural Consultants of the Treasury Department had agreed to the erection of a reflecting pool as a memorial to Oscar Straus, first Secretary of Commerce, in front of

the new Department of Commerce Building in the great plaza in the triangle south of Pennsylvania Avenue, but that Mr. Pope because of the sudden death of his daughter has thus far done nothing in the matter of design.

The Commission were pleased to receive this information from Mr. Hinshaw and to await a design by Mr. Pope.

Mr. Moore said that a memorial that is symbolic would be best, the same as has been suggested for the Red Cross Memorial Fountain and as was done in the case of the Darlington Fountain in Judiciary Square.

7. SECOND DIVISION MEMORIAL: The Secretary stated that on August 22, General Harbord accompanied by Major General Preston Brown, Deputy Chief of Staff, and Captain Mattfeldt, representing a majority of the members of the Second Division Memorial Committee, called at the office of the Commission of Fine Arts to see models and designs that had been received for the Second Division Memorial. Colonel McNider had also come to Washington for this meeting of the Committee but was unavoidably prevented from attending it. Colonel McNider had, however, told the members of the Committee that he would concur in whatever they agreed upon. The Secretary stated that after inspecting the designs and models and talking the matter over, the Committee selected Mr. Fraser's design of the "Flaming Sword", as the one which they felt would be acceptable to the Commission and which would make further delay in the matter of design unnecessary and would also enable them to proceed with the campaign for funds. General Harbord said he had been much disappointed over the delay about the selection of a design and it was important to proceed with the campaign without further delay. General Harbord asked if this design was favored by the Commission, and in reply the Secretary stated that it

was intended that the models and designs be inspected by the Commission of Fine Arts at the September meeting, that this was not done at the meeting in New York on July 23 at his (General Harbord's) request. The Secretary called attention to the letter of July 7, 1930, on the subject of the Second Division Memorial addressed to General Brown as a member of the Committee, informing him that Mr. Fraser's design of the "Flaming Sword" was favored by the Commission and if the Committee wished to make its selection, it seemed to him they could do so on the basis of this letter.

General Harbord asked about Mr. Keck's revised model of a figure of Victory emerging from a shaft, which was submitted at the New York meeting on July 23, and the Secretary stated that no photograph of it had been received from Mr. Keck. As for Mr. Sanford's model of a figure of Victory on a large pedestal to take the form of a memorial room, this did not meet with favor by the Committee. After considering the designs and models further, the Committee finally accepted Mr. Fraser's design of the "Flaming Sword", and General Harbord said he would see to it that the Second Division Memorial Committee pays Mr. Keck and Mr. Sanford for the work done on their models.

Mr. Morris objected to the action taken by the Second Division Memorial Committee in selecting Mr. Fraser's design of the "Flaming Sword", since the other designs and models were to be considered at this meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts. He read a letter from Mr. Keck in which Mr. Keck stated that Mr. Caemmerer had written him that his design would be reviewed at this meeting and that he then received another letter notifying him that the Second Division Memorial Committee had chosen Mr. Fraser's design and that his model was being returned. General Harbord's reply to Mr. Keck was

that he had received the impression that the Commission would not approve Mr. Keck's design. Mr. Morris said that the Commission not having seen the design, put the Commission in a precarious situation.

Mr. Weinman said that Mr. Keck and Mr. Sanford had both made the complaint to him that the competition was not held in accordance with the proper methods of procedure and that both Mr. Keck and Mr. Sanford are very bitter about the whole matter. Mr. Weinman then read a letter from Mr. Keck, asking that the Commission give him fair treatment in regard to it. Mr. Weinman said further that Mr. Keck feels that he should have been given opportunity to submit his model before action was taken and still further, Mr. Weinman stated that everything should be done to avoid any feeling outside of the Commission. Mr. Garfield said that this is one of these cases for which there is no cure but that the Commission is at fault and should acknowledge that fact to Mr. Keck and Mr. Sanford. Mr. Vitale suggested that General Harbord and the three sculptors be called upon to meet for the purpose of settling this matter and that each of the three sculptors in the competition should be asked to resubmit his design or model.

Mr. Morris thereupon stated that he had received another letter from General Harbord, expressing great disappointment over the way this matter has proceeded as a project before the Commission of Fine Arts and that the criticism was so severe he would not wish to read the letter. The Secretary stated that it was because of the long delay that General Harbord wanted some action and that he wanted to avoid particularly a long controversy among the competing artists in the matter of design; that General Harbord was primarily interested in securing a design for the Second Division Memorial

that was acceptable to the Commission of Fine Arts, and while selecting Mr. Fraser's design he wished to be fair to Mr. Keck and Mr. Sanford by seeing to it that they are paid for their work on their models.

The Commission decided to place the matter in the hands of Mr. Moore with the request that he appoint a committee to confer with General Harbord and the competing sculptors with a view to their resubmitting their designs or models to settle this matter. Mr. Morris said in view of the fact that the Second Division Memorial Committee is arranging with Mr. Fraser for completing his design and is also planning for the campaign for funds, action should be taken promptly. Mr. Moore said he felt certain Mr. Fraser would not hesitate to resubmit his design.

8. PAN AMERICAN OFFICE BUILDING: Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union, appeared before the Commission to explain designs prepared by Paul Cret and Albert Kelsey, Architects, for the Pan American Office Building to be built on the triangle along B Street at 18th and Virginia Avenue, N. W., immediately west of the Pan American Union Building.

The Commission inspected the design and noted that it was Spanish in its type of architecture and was intended to be a stucco building. Dr. Rowe said he has only $350,000 for the building and there is no possibility of securing more money from the Carnegie Foundation.

Mr. Moore called attention to the fact that when the Pan American Union was given this triangle on the south side of Virginia Avenue instead of the one on the north side, it was with the understanding that the building would be built of marble, monumental in character to conform to the type of

monumental buildings on B Street that form a part of the frame of the Lincoln Memorial, such as the National Academy of Sciences Building and the proposed Pharmaceutical Association Building, and that this had been brought to the attention of the Secretary of State and the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds (as shown on page 60 of the Eleventh Report of the National Commission of Fine Arts).

The architect members of the Commission regarded the design of the building bad and on their recommendation the Commission disapproved it. Dr. Howe then said that Dr. Cret was on his way from Philadelphia to Washington and would meet with the Commission later in the day.

Dr. Cret appeared before the Commission about 5:30 p.m. He was informed that the Commission had disapproved the design for the reasons above stated. The Commission pointed out to him that the office building should harmonize with the existing Pan American Union Building and should be of marble. Dr. Cret said he was in doubt if such a building could be built as there is not money enough for it, also in the matter of design, he was uncertain what could be done but that he would give the project further careful study. In connection with the office building, there are to be suitable gardens in the triangle to form part of the composition. A report was sent to Dr. Howe (Exhibit D).

9. STANDARD OIL COMPANY BUILDING: Mr. William I. Partridge, Consulting Architect of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, stated that when information was received that the Standard Oil Company wished to build at Third and B Streets, N. W., near the Municipal Center, Colonel Grant took up the matter with the architects of the building with a view to securing a design that would harmonize with the Municipal Center and conform to the

approved type of monumental buildings for the National Capital. Because of its proximity to Pennsylvania Avenue, the design of the building is one coming under the Shipstead-Luce Act. The architects of the Standard Oil Company Building readily consented and have designed an appropriate building for this location, which will serve both as an office building and will have in it a filling station of an improved type and unique among those in Washington. Thereupon, Mr. Partridge introduced Mr. Clyde N. Friz, Architect of Baltimore, who presented the design.

The Commission inspected the design and noted that it harmonizes with the Municipal Center plans. The Commission recommended that the end pavilions with the pediments be restudied, also the large entrances on the street floor for automobiles should be made to appear less like holes punched in the wall by using some architectural motive as a molding at the sides or some design over the lintel. These suggestions were made to the architect and he was informed that the design was approved with the minor changes suggested. (Exhibit E).

10.- GEORGE ROGERS CLARK MEMORIAL: Mr. F. C. Hirons of the firm of Hirons and Mellor, of New York City, Architects of the George Rogers Clark Memorial, appeared before the Commission with a revised design for this memorial. In design it is to be a circular memorial building with 16 columns.

The architect members of the Commission inspected the design and felt it was an improvement over that previously submitted. They recommended raising the stylobate a little and the top of the drum should be made a little softer, squeezing in the corners. As an ornamental feature there are to be three intercolumniated stars, representing the forty-eight states of the union. The question of placing the proposed statue inside or outside of the building

was given consideration. Mr. Winter said that he disliked the idea of placing an American in a classical building as was done in the case of the Lincoln Memorial, but he felt the George Rogers Clark Memorial is an exception since the statue can be made conventional and the mural decorations would be in back of the statue and on the sides and so related as to center on the statue with it as the chief motive. Mr. Hirons said that the work has been delayed pending a decision as to the design of the statue and the mural decorations. He said there are five States that were brought into the Union as a result of George Rogers Clark's victories--Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Connecticut, and Ohio, and that historical scenes from the campaigns are to be portrayed in these mural decorations.

The Commission strongly urged the selection of the sculptor and the mural painter immediately to colaborate with the architect in the further development of the design. The Commission asked Mr. Hirons what plan he proposed for the selection of a sculptor and a painter, and he said that he has 10 sculptors and 10 painters in mind to recommend to the George Rogers Clark Memorial Commission, from which one sculptor and one painter is to be selected and their names submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for approval. He said they were all leading artists and he felt there would be no question about their being acceptable to the Commission of Fine Arts.

Mr. Hirons was asked about the lighting scheme and he said that he proposed to use alabaster for the skylight. A report was sent to Senator Fess as Chairman of the Federal George Rogers Clark Memorial Commission and to Senator Culbertson, representing the Indiana George Rogers Clark Memorial Commission. (Exhibit F, F-1, and F-2)

11. KENNEDY-WARREN APARTMENT HOTEL: A design was submitted by Mr. Monroe Warren for the Kennedy-Warren Apartment Hotel at 3033 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Joseph Younger, Architect. It is to be a 1,700-room apartment house building, 8 stories in height and will be near the Klingle Bridge adjacent to the Zoo.

The Commission inspected the design and noted that while the main facade was satisfactory, the one submitted for the rear of the building was very ordinary. Mr. Warren said that he had drawn this up hurriedly to have something to show to the Commission at this meeting.

The Commission advised Mr. Warren that the design for the Connecticut Avenue side of the building was satisfactory but that the design for the rear should be restudied to conform to the main facade.

Mr. Eliot spoke briefly about the height of apartment houses adjacent to parks and said the zoning law does not take into consideration the back of a building as a separate entity in deciding on the height limit, that the height of a building is determined by the facade fronting on the street. In view of the fact that the Shipstead-Luce Act requires designs for buildings adjacent to Rock Creek Park and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway to be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts, he felt that some change in the zoning regulations in this respect should be made. He did not like the idea of having high apartment houses overlooking the park or parkway. The Commission concurred in this.

12. TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER: Brigadier General L. H. Bash, Chief of Construction Division, Office of the Quartermaster General, in company with Mr. Lorimer Rich, architect of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, presented completed studies for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, in which the architect had embodied suggestions made at the meeting of the Commission on July 25,

namely, to lengthen the approach to conform to that shown in the original design; also he had narrowed the steps somewhat so as to be in keeping with the width of the amphitheatre. Mr. Kiem said that in the development of these designs, he had conferred with members of the Commission of Fine Arts and felt they were about complete.

The Commission inspected the drawings and with a few minor suggestions made to the architect, approved them. (Exhibit C). General Gasa said he is making every effort to have the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier completed by 1932.

13. ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: Under date of September 2, 1930, the following letter was received from Major Gillette, submitting grading plans for the Arlington Memorial Bridge:

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
National Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Building,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Parkway and Memorial entrance to Cemetery, Arlington Memorial Bridge Project.

Dear Sir:

I am sending herewith blueprint copies of our drawings, 627-1, 627-2a, 627-2b, and 627-2c, showing the grading operations which we intend to begin in the near future for the construction of the Parkway extending from the Boundary Channel Bridge to the Memorial Entrance of the cemetery.

A cross-section of the parkway has been taken from drawings furnished to us by the architects which, I believe, your Commission has already seen and possibly approved.

I will be grateful for any expressions of the views of your Commission with regard to this proposed work.

Respectfully yours,

for the Executive Officer:

(Signed) D. W. Gillette,
Executive Assistant.

The grading plans were inspected and on the recommendation of Mr. Vitale, they were approved by the Commission.

Colonel Grant stated that the Commission is up against the necessity of cutting down the cost of the bridge and getting legislation which will authorize what is considered essential as they are about one and a half million dollars beyond the appropriation. There have been added to the cost of the bridge several items--in the matter of the foundation and channel work for the bridge, changing the curve of the bridge so as to make it a little higher, a concrete deck for the bascule draw span, and about $374,000 to make the granite thicker on the arches of the main bridge and $52,000 extra to make the granite thicker on the arches of the Boundary Channel Bridge. To offset this additional expense, the Greek temples at the ends of the cross axis on Columbia Island are to be omitted and the statuary is also to be reduced. Colonel Grant objected to the fluting on the columns for the reason that it would add $25,000 apiece to the cost of them and was in favor of omitting the sculptural frieze at the bottom.

The Commission after consideration decided that while the question of economy should be carefully regarded, nevertheless, the essential memorial features should not be omitted and the two memorial columns ought particularly to be erected. Mr. Lawrence White said that, as representing the architects, they were very anxious to know what the Commission would do in this matter. The Commission decided that the design of the columns be approved. They will be fluted columns as shown in the design but the question of the sculptural frieze at the base can be further considered when a model is made. Also the

sculpture proposed for the top of the columns should be restudied.

Major Gillette read a telegram (Exhibit H) from Mr. Olmsted commenting on the treatment of Columbia Island Plaza in its relation to the Mall. Mr. Eliot submitted a plan for the proposed Lee Highway connection and suggested drawing in the northern arm from Columbia Island, which will bring the Lee Highway nearer to the Arlington National Cemetery. The Commission agreed to this. A letter was sent to Mr. Olmsted saying the Commission is in accord with his views (Exhibit H-1).

Major Gillette asked advice about the proposed lamp posts and the Commission recommended that a simple wooden model be used to determine the scale of the lamp post for the memorial bridge. Colonel Grant said he would be pleased to know if the Commission would favor some other type of lighting scheme other than a lamp post, but the Commission deferred answering this question until the model of the lamp post had been inspected. A report was sent to Colonel Grant (Exhibit H-2).

14. ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL ARCH: The Commission were in conference with Major R. Y. Stuart, Chief, and Mr. Norcross, Engineer, of the Forest Service, in regard to designs for the proposed Roosevelt Memorial Arch to be built at Marias Pass on the Continental Divide in Montana. Major Stuart said since the July meeting of the Commission when designs submitted by Kimball, Steele, and Sandham, Architects of Omaha, were disapproved, every effort has been made to secure a satisfactory design and data for this memorial but as matters stand today it has been shown that $25,000 is not sufficient for a suitable memorial arch; that the alternative suggestion of an obelisk has been considered also, but the design could not be adopted in the absence of authority from Congress, which specified a "memorial arch".

The Commission discussed the matter with Major Stuart and Mr. Norcross and noted from photographs the location proposed for it. Mr. Garfield, who had just returned from Wyoming and had called on the architects at Omaha, said he saw the drawings for the proposed memorial at their office and talked with the architects about the matter, that the architects said an arch built for the money appropriated would be trivial and that they suggested as an alternative two concrete pylons, but the design for this was disapproved by the Commission. Mr. Garfield said: "The architects have been asked for a rather long inscription, but the granite of that neighborhood does not admit easily of carving or cutting. It seems to be an obdurate and unyielding stone. They would almost be compelled to import a slab for the purpose of inscription or else have it cast in bronze".

Mr. Vitale stated that an arch even as large as the Arch of Triumph in Paris would be simply a spot in the landscape in view of the magnificent natural wonders in the far west and that he felt an arch at this location was absurd. So far as the memorial is concerned, he felt a suitable marker or mound could be erected for which $25,000 would be sufficient.

Major Stuart presented sketches for an obelisk designed by the architects in Omaha and also one offered by the Vermont Granite Company (who control the Yule Marble Works in Colorado), but no action was taken in regard to them. A report was sent to Major Stuart setting forth that it would be necessary for him to take up the matter further with Congress in view of the fact that $25,000 is not enough for a memorial arch and the Act would have to be changed to permit the erection of a memorial other than an arch. (Exhibit I)

15. STATE DEPARTMENT BUILDING: Under date of September 12, 1930, the following letter was received from Honorable Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, asking the Commission to inspect designs prepared by Mr. Waddy Wood, Architect of Washington, for the State Department Building:

The Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In connection with the State, War and Navy Department Building, this city, the Act of July 3, 1930 provides for "removal of upper story, refacing and refinishing of exterior, and such remodeling and reconstruction of building and changes in approaches as will make it harmonize generally in architectural appearance with the Treasury Building".

In accordance with authority vested in this Department Mr. Waddy B. Wood, Architect, of this city, has been retained to prepare drawings, specifications, etc., for this project, and he has now presented for consideration schemes numbered One to Five inclusive, showing alternate treatments for the exterior of the building.

These are presented for the comment and advice of the Commission, and it is desired that examination of the sketches be made at the Treasury Department, where they will be assembled in Room 276 and ready for inspection at three o'clock p.m., on Tuesday, September 16th.

Mr. Wood will be in attendance at the meeting in order to explain the treatments indicated by the various sketches.

Respectfully,

(Signed) A. W. Mellon
Secretary of the Treasury.

The Commission called on Secretary Mellon at his office at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon. The plans were explained by Mr. Wood, who had made five studies showing the State, War and Navy Building so designed as to harmonize in its exterior with the Treasury Department Building. Designs No. 3 and

No. 5 were particularly favored by the Commission. Secretary Mellon, commenting on the designs, said he favored both design No. 3 and No. 5, but the latter showed pediments on the pavilions corresponding to those on the pavilions of the Treasury Department Building. As to the facade for the south side of the building, Mr. Mellon felt this looked like a warehouse, according to Mr. Waddy Wood's design, due to the fact that he had omitted the pilasters as shown on the south front of the Treasury Department Building. Mr. Wood explained that there are nine windows to be considered on each side of the main pediment of the south facade of the State, War and Navy Building, and they are so close together as to make it impossible to use pilasters as in the case of the Treasury Department Building.

The Commission approved the designs generally and recommended that a model be made illustrating the schemes suggested in Plans 3 and 5 of the south portion of the remodeled State Department Building. Secretary Mellon favored this. On the north side of the building, the architect, Mr. Wood, proposes to raise the existing sunken garden and use the space underneath for storing automobiles--156 in number. The Commission favored this and said the sunken garden on the north side of the Treasury Department Building should be similarly treated at the time the State, War and Navy Building is being remodeled. Mr. Wood said that he has been in conference with officials of the Department of State as to the interior arrangement and that they are in agreement as to the design, subject to such alterations as will be made as the project develops. There is the question of restoring the interior court and taking out the heating and lighting plant.

Samples of granite were submitted as follows in connection with the restoration of the State, War and Navy Building: Dix Island granite (same

as Treasury Department); Concord, New Hampshire granite; Deer Isle, Maine, granite; Mount Airy granite.

The Commission were well pleased with the project as Mr. Wood has developed it thus far and a report was sent to Secretary Mellon accordingly. (Exhibit J). (See also J-1)

16. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE BUILDING: Honorable Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury and Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, submitted designs prepared by Mr. J. H. de Sibour, Architect of Washington, for the Public Health Service Building to be erected on B Street between 19th and 20th Streets, N. W. The architect members of the Commission inspected the plans and favored Scheme B. It will be a monumental building of white marble, conforming to the classical type of building adopted for B Street, N. W., as a frame for the Lincoln Memorial.

Dr. Cumming said that Congress has appropriated $865,000 for the building and he expects to get a supplemental amount needed to complete the building in marble. The building will be 260 feet long by 145 feet wide with three stories and a basement and will comprise 1,468,630 feet of office space. The square provides for expansion of the building to the north. It will stand 170 feet back from B Street to be on the building line of the National Academy of Sciences Building and will provide ample space for gardens in the foreground.

The Commission approved the design of the building with the recommendation that the facade be restudied with a view to changing the height of the two main stories so as to increase the height of the pilasters, also to restudy the end pavilions and where the architect shows a double window, to separate the parts with stone mullions.

17. ARMILLARY SPHERE, MERIDIAN HILL PARK: Mr. C. Paul Jennewein, Sculptor, met with the Commission during the day and conferred as to the design for the Armillary Sphere for Meridian Hill Park. Mr. Weinman brought to Mr. Jennewein's attention suggestions of the Commission made at the July meeting--to omit the figures shown in his model and to raise the sphere by lifting it on a platform. There is to be low planting around it. Mr. Jennewein will embody these suggestions in a revised model which he will submit to the Commission.

18. METHODIST CHURCH OFFICE BUILDING: The Secretary stated that on September 10, he attended a special Zoning Committee meeting at the District Building, at which time the question of the Methodist Church Office Building was under consideration, involving a change in the zoning height limit of buildings in that locality from 60 to 90 feet; and at the request of the Committee this matter was to be placed before the Commission of Fine Arts since the site is adjacent to the Capitol Grounds, which come under the Shipstead-Luce Act.

The particular question placed before the Commission was whether they would agree to an extension of the building of 120 feet built to a height of 72 feet so as to have the same cornice line as the existing Methodist Church Office Building. A letter was received from Mr. Cass Gilbert, Architect, (Exhibit L), saying that the proposed extension would not interfere with the United States Supreme Court Building in the immediate vicinity and that if the extension is allowed, it should be built to a height of 72 feet rather than only 60 feet.

The Commission took cognizance of the fact that the Plan of Washington provides that the squares surrounding the Capitol Grounds shall be reserved for the use of the legislative department of the Government and that as a

result of recent legislation all plots of ground excepting this tract owned by the Methodist Church and a square to the south side of the Capitol Grounds, together with two or three small street reservations, have been purchased by the United States Government. The Commission felt, however, that the acquiring of these areas is something for Congress to determine.

The plans which were submitted and considered by the Commission were prepared by Mr. J. Lee Wilkinson, Architect, of Washington. They involve an expenditure of $500,000.

As designed, the building in its facade will conform to the existing Methodist Church Office Building and will also be built of limestone.

The Commission after consideration and inspection of the plans decided that if the extension is to be built, it should be built to a height of 72 feet so as to have the same corrice line as the existing Methodist Church Office Building. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia were informed accordingly. (Exhibit L-1).

19. PLANS FOR JAPANESE EMBASSY: Plans were received from the Building Inspector for the District of Columbia for the new Japanese Embassy to be built at 2514 Massachusetts Avenue, designed by Delano and Aldrich, Architects, of New York City. The plans were submitted under the Shipstead-Luce Act in view of their proximity to the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.

The architect members of the Commission inspected the drawings and regarded the building well designed. Upon their recommendation, the Commission approved the plans.

20. FINE ARTS EXHIBITION FOR THE BICENTENNIAL: In accordance with a request of Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant, 3d, Associate Director of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, the Commission of Fine Arts prepared a tentative

program for the fine arts exhibition to be held during the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration in 1932. The Commission tentatively approved the program and a copy of it was sent to Colonel Grant for his approval. (Exhibit M).

21. GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL MEDAL: A proposed program of competition for the George Washington Bicentennial Medal was drafted and with certain changes made by Mr. Moore and Mr. Weinman was approved. The question of selection of sculptors had been taken up with Mr. Weinman and the former sculptor members of the Commission--Mr. French, Mr. Adams, Mr. Fraser, and Mr. Taft. They agreed in the selection of Mr. MacNeil, Mr. Manship, Mrs. Fraser, and Mr. Jennewein. Mr. Adams recommended Mr. Aitken instead of Mr. Flanagan as the fifth sculptor to take part in this competition. The Commission considered this matter and felt that in view of the fact that Mr. Flanagan is at work completing the Agricultural Department World War Memorial, he would very probably not have time to prepare a sketch and submit it within the time specified by the competition, that is, by November 30, 1930. It was suggested that Mr. French, Mr. Fraser, and Mr. Taft be consulted as to whether they would agree to the selection of Mr. Aitken.

The Commission approved the program of competition and a copy of it was sent to Colonel Grant for his approval. (Exhibit N).

22. ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE SCULPTURE: Colonel Grant submitted a letter under date of September 11 (Exhibit O), requesting advice on the subject of sculpture for the Arlington Memorial Bridge, questions relating thereto having been raised by Mr. Friedlander. The letter was submitted to Mr. Weinman for his advice who called attention to the fact that each sculptor is to receive the same amount for his work, that is, $134,000. As for comparing the

figures to be executed by Mr. Friedlander and by Mr. Fraser, no comparison, he said, can be made for giving an opinion on the points presented by Mr. Friedlander until scale models are submitted by Mr. Friedlander and Mr. Fraser. Colonel Grant was informed accordingly. (Exhibit C-1).

The Commission had as their guests at luncheon: Colonel Grant; Major Gillette; Mr. Lawrence White; Mr. Vegezzi, Mr. Eliot; Mr. William Partridge; Mr. Nagel; Major Stuart; Mr. Norcross; Mr. Jennewein; and Mr. Waddy Wood.

After returning from Secretary Mellon's Office, the Commission resumed the session and adjourned at 7:30 p. m.

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
~~WASHINGTON~~

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
SEP 12
NOTED

Oak Grove, Virginia
Sept.10,1930.

Hon.Harry Flood Byrd,
Chairman of Building Committee,
Wakefield National Memorial Association,
Evening Star,
Winchester,Virginia.

Dear Sir:

I have been instructed by Mrs.P.L.Rust Jr.,President Wakefield National Memorial Association,to submit a condensed report to you of the work so far accomplished at Wakefield and as the work progresses send reports to you.

There is inclosed a brief report of the work done to date. I shall send you a report at the end of each month or oftener if you so desire.

Yours Very Truly

Oliver G.Taylor
Engineer Wakefield Restoration

Copies
Mrs.Rust
Dr.Moore
Mr.Donn
Director,National Park Service.

Exhibit A

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WASHINGTON

XXXXXXXXXXX WAKEFIELD

Sept.10,1930.

CONDENSED REPORT OF RESTORATION WORK TO DATE

MOVING MONUMENT

On July 15th contract was awarded James O.Caton & Sons for moving the monument,removing fence and old foundation, recutting base and pedestal,and extending the monument base. The contract price is $24,990 and the time limit is 130 days.

The bid was higher than anticipated and an additional $15,000 was appropriated in the Second Deficiency Bill.

The contractor begun work promptly. The shaft was lowered August 9th and immediately after the base and pedestal were hauled to Washington for recutting. The new concrete foundation was completed August 12th. The removal of the old foundation was completed Sept.4th. On Sept.8 and 9 the shaft and erecting equipment were moved to the new site.

Two pieces of the base have been recut and they with one load of base extension stone have been delivered back at the monument site. All base extension stone have been cut and the remainder of the base and pedestal are now being recut in Washington. The work is proceeding well within schedule.

BRICK MAKING

Arrangements were made with Todd & Brown Inc.,Building Contractors doing the Rockefeller Restoration work at Williamsburg, for the loan of their brick making force. This force,including one white foreman and six colored men,moved to Wakefield July 8th.

While still at Williamsburg the foreman,Mr.Hedgecock,made and burned some bricks from Wakefield clay. The clay was found to be very satisfactory and we have continued making brick of the clay from the same place which is on the edge of the bluff about 1,000 feet west of the house site. The brick are being moulded in the field immediately west of the reservation.

We have moulded approximately 130,000 bricks. 58,000 bricks have been burned,50,000 are in a kiln ready to be burned and the remainder are on the yard drying. There is a loss of approximately 10 per cent in the drying and burning. After the initial plant cost of $1,500 we think the brick can be made at a cost not in excess of $35.00 per M. The bricks are one third larger than common bricks and the size is 2 5/8 x 4 x 8½ . We are following Mr.Donn's guidance in the size and color of the bricks.

It is contemplated to make all the bricks for the Mansion, Ancient Kitchen and Graveyard Wall by hand from Wakefield clay. This will require 320,000 bricks and there is some question if we can make them all before the weather gets too cold,however we think we can.

EXCAVATIONS

After the old monument foundation was saved three sections of foundation walls were exposed. One at the SW corner running North and South is very shallow. The other two are much deeper and run East from the SE and NE corners. It is Mr.Dorn's suggestion we begun uncovering the latter two walls to-day and find them so far as the work has gone to be essentially as shown on old drawings. So far we have uncovered nothing but has been uncovered before.

GRAVEYARD

I cannot give much information other than that Mr.Dorn some time ago let a contract with a Baltimore firm for the five table stones and that he expects they will be getting them soon.

MAPPING

During all my spare time while supervising the work I have been making much needed detailed topographic maps. These maps will be of use for general and detailed plans.

Oliver G.Taylor
Engineer Mahafield Restoration

IN REPLY REFER TO S. G. O. 210.5-1

MWI 811

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL
WASHINGTON

September 15, 1930.

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
SEP 16 1930
NOTED

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Caemmerer:

I am just back from Chicago, or I should have answered your letter of September 9th sooner.

I am inclosing a memorandum from Brigadier General Jefferson Randolph Kean, U. S. Army, retired, the warm personal friend of Walter Reed, which expresses my opinion on this matter. If the artist will observe, Schuler's bust does not give Walter Reed such a long drooping moustache. This looks rather strange to those of us who remember it.

Very sincerely yours,

Major General
The Surgeon General.

6 Incls.

Exhibit B

Washington, D.C., September 15, 1930.

MEMORANDUM: WALTER REED MEDAL.

For the obverse I prefer "A", although the likeness to Major Reed is better in "B". This, however, is probably accidental as both apparently are drawn from the Schuler bust. The head is somewhat differently shaped from Schuler's, and the likeness is not as good. The artist will doubtless come closer to Schuler's work in his final drawing. If the point of the moustache could be shortened a little bit, it would improve the likeness.

The inscription in "A" is very appropriate, being a condensation of the citation given by President Eliot with the degree given to Major Reed by Harvard University in 1902.

For the reverse I like "C" bettern than "D", even if the Caduceus were correctly drawn in "D", which it is not. The wings should be attached to the staff near its top above the heads of the snakes instead of to the bodies of the snakes, as shown in the drawing.

Hean

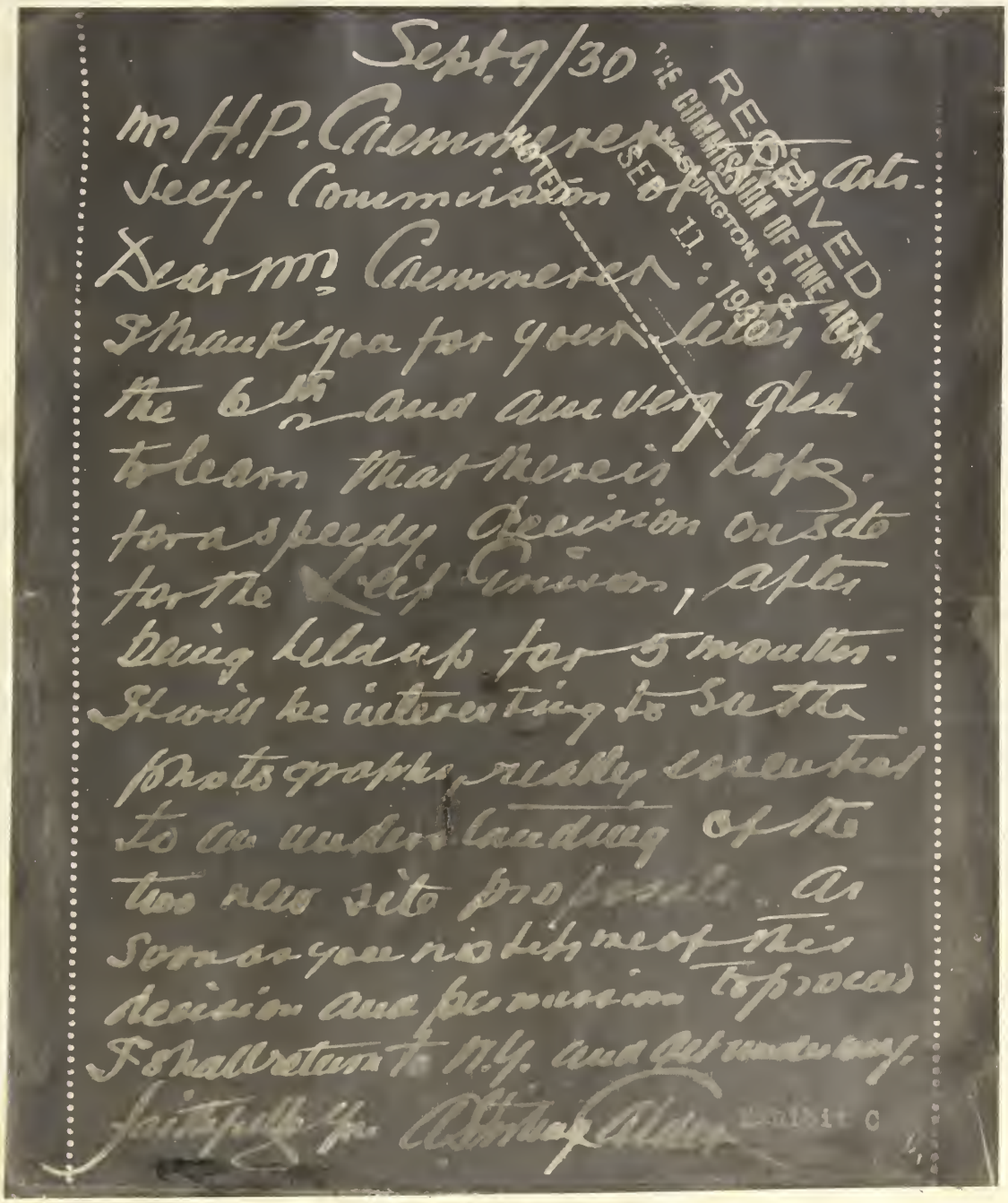
C O P Y

AN ACT To recognize the high public service rendered by Major Walter Reed and those associated with him in the discovery of the cause and means of transmission of yellow fever.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in special recognition of the high public service rendered and disabilities contracted in the interest of humanity and science as voluntary subjects for the experimentations during the yellow-fever investigations in Cuba, the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to publish annually in the Army Register a roll of honor on which shall be carried the following names: Walter Reed, James Carroll, Jesse W. Lazear, Aristides Agramonte, James A. Andrus, John R. Bullard, A. W. Covington, William H. Dean, Wallace W. Forbes, Levi E. Folk, Paul Hamann, James F. Hanberry, Warren G. Jernegam, John R. Kissinger, John J. Moran, William Olsen, Charles G. Sonntag, Clyde L. West, Doctor R. P. Cooke, Thomas M. England, James Hildebrand, and Edward Weatherwalks, and to define in appropriate language the part which each of these persons played in the experimentations during the yellow-fever investigations in Cuba; and in further recognition of the high public service so rendered by the persons hereinbefore named, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to cause to be struck for each of said persons a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, and to present the same to each of said persons as shall be living and posthumously to such representatives of each of such persons as shall have died, as shall be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury. For this purpose there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of $5,000; and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such amounts annually as may be necessary in order to pay to the following-named persons during the remainder of their natural lives the sum of $125 per month, and such amount shall be in lieu of any and all pensions authorized by law for the following-named persons: Private Paul Hamann; Private John R. Kissinger; Private William Olsen, Hospital Corps; Private Charles G. Sonntag, Hospital Corps; Private Clyde L. West, Hospital Corps; Private James Hildebrand, Hospital Corps; Private James A. Andrus, Hospital Corps; Mr. John R. Bullard; Doctor Aristides Agramonte; Private A. W. Covington, Twenty-third Battery, Coast Artillery Corps; Private Wallace W. Forbes, Hospital Corps; Private Levi E. Folk, Hospital Corps; Private James F. Hanberry, Hospital Corps; Doctor R. P. Cooke; Private Thomas M. England; Mr. John J. Moran; and the widow of Private Edward Weatherwalks.

Approved, February 28, 1929. (Public--No. 858--70th Congress, vol. 45, p. 1409.)

EXHIBIT B - 1



Sept. 9/30

Mr H.P. Caemmerer Asst.
Secy. Commission of Fine Arts.
Washington D.C.

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
SEP 11 1930

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

I thank you for your letter of the 6th and am very glad to learn that there is hope for a speedy decision on site for the Lincoln Memorial, after being held up for 5 months. It will be interesting to see the photographs really connected to an understanding of the two new sites proposed. As soon as you notify me of this decision and permission to proceed I shall return to N.Y. and get under way.

Faithfully yours Adrian Wilson

Exhibit C

EXHIBIT C.

Washington Monu

C O P Y

September 12, 1930.

Dear Dr. Rowe:

With regret the Commission of Fine Arts are compelled to return without approval the plans for an additional building for the Pan American Union.

The plans as submitted are at variance with the whole theory adopted and now being carried out for the development of B Street from Seventeenth Street westerly to the Potomac River as in a sense a frame for the Lincoln Memorial.

The three elements in this scheme are:

First, an adequate space adapted to landscape treatment.

Second, the architectural design to be based on classical precedents, so as not to be incongruous with the Lincoln Memorial.

Third, the exterior material to be white marble.

These requirements for the westerly portion of B Street were established at the time when the building for the National Academy of Sciences was under consideration. They were based especially upon the architectural and landscape features of the present Pan American Union Building, acclaimed alike by professional and public opinion as one of the finest combined works of architect and landscape architect in America. They were reinforced by the effectiveness of the group of buildings beginning with the Corcoran Gallery and culminating in the Pan American Union.

All the above requirements embodied in the Science Building have been met unhesitatingly in the plans for two other buildings proposed to be erected in this area. They were one of the inducements which led Congress, on the recommendation of President Coolidge and Secretary Kellogg, to grant to the Pan American Union the use of this particular square, purchased by the Government with a view in part of protecting the Lincoln Memorial from unworthy neighbors.

It is unnecessary to adduce here the many other considerations which support and supplement those given herein.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General,
Pan American Union,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

September 17, 1930.

Dear Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting yesterday approved the design for the Standard Oil Company Building to be erected at 3rd and B Streets, N. W. The members of the Commission desire to express their keen appreciation and a lively sense of satisfaction at the spirit in which the Standard Oil Company has taken up this problem.

The building as designed, both in its architectural character and the materials of which it is to be constructed, shows an appreciation on the part of the company of the ideal development of the National Capital on the business side as well as on the side of the Government. In approving the design of the building, the members of the Commission also appreciated the friendly relations established in connection with suggestions made to the architect as to minor changes in the design.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Mr. Clyde N. Friz,
2010 Lexington Building,
Baltimore, Maryland.

EXHIBIT E

C O P Y

September 17, 1930.

Dear Senator Fess:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, considered designs for the George Rogers Clark Memorial, at Vincennes, Indiana, submitted by Mr. Frederic C. Hirons, in behalf of the architects of the memorial, F. C. Hirons and F. W. Mellor.

The restudy of the memorial building, as shown by the design submitted, was approved with the recommendation that the George Rogers Clark Memorial Commission at this time choose a painter and a sculptor, acceptable to the architects, so that the study of the decoration and architecture of the interior can be carried out as a unit.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Honorable Simeon D. Fess, Chairman,
George Rogers Clark Memorial Commission,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

September 18, 1930.

Dear Senator Culbertson:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting yesterday were well pleased with the revised design for the George Rogers Clark Memorial Building insofar as it has progressed. The Commission thought it essential to the success of the undertaking to have the sculptor and the painter named at the earliest possible moment so that they can confer with the architects and with the Commission of Fine Arts as to the subjects for representation and the character of the work. This recommendation is embodied in the report to Senator Fess, a copy of which is attached, but I am anxious to get it straight to you so that there may be no delay.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Honorable D. Frank Culbertson,

Vincennes, Indiana.

EXHIBIT F-1

UNITED STATES SENATE

Committee on the Library

September 23, 1930

My dear Mr. Moore:

Your letter of September 17th conveying the favorable action of your commission on the designs for the George Rogers Clark Memorial at Vincennes, Indiana, awaited me when I reached the Capital.

I observe your recommendation that a painter and a sculptor, acceptable to the architects, should be selected. I will take the matter up at the next meeting of the Commission.

Thanking you for writing me, I am

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Simeon D. Fess

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F-2

C O P Y

September 17, 1930.

Dear General Bash:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting yesterday, approved the designs for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which you submitted, with certain suggestionsmade to you and to the architect, Mr. Lorimer Rich, who was present with you.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Brigadier General L. H. Bash, Chief,
Construction Division,
Office of the Quartermaster General,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

C O P Y

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

RECEIVED AT NAVY DEPARTMENT 1930 SEP - 15 - PM 7 : 15

54W NS 273 N.L. COLLECT GOV'T

KR-BROOKLYNE MASS SEPT 15 30

COL US GRANT

US NATL CAP PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION NEW NAVY BLDG

WASHINGTON DC

MY PERSONAL CONVICTIONS ABOUT RELATIVE ADVANTAGES OF LEE BOULEVARD ROUTES RESPECTIVELY NORTH OR SOUTH OF FORTMEYER AND CEMETERY ARE LESS STRONG THAN ABOUT ELIMINATING CIRCLE AT NORTH END OF COLUMBIA ISLAND STOP NORTH ROUTE OBVIOUSLY HAS ADVANTAGES IN DIRECTNESS IN BORDERING BEAUTIFUL WOODLAWN PART OF CEMETERY AND IN PRESENTING NOTABLE VIEW OF MALL COMPOSITION FROM RIVER VALLEY ESCARTMENT PROVIDED LINE IS KEPT AS PLANNED JUST FAR ENOUGH SOUTH OF MALL AXIS TO AVOID UNPLEASANT AND CONFUSED OVERLAPPING OF THE THREE AXIAL OBJECTS IN THE VIEW NAMELY LINCOLN MEMORIAL WASHINGTON MONUMENT AND CAPITOL DOME STOP MY PRIME OBJECTION TO PROPOSED CIRCLE ON COLUMBIA ISLAND ON MALL AXIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THAT IT WOULD BE A WEAK AND ANTICLIMATIC ATTEMPT TO SIGNALIZE ARCHITECTURALLY THE EXTENSION OF THE MALL AXIS TO THE VIRGINIA SHORE STOP THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION OF NINETEEN HUNDRED ONE WERE UNANIMOUS IN BELIEVING AND I STILL STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL AND THE WATER GATE SHOULD BE THE CULMINATING OBJECT AT WEST END OF THE MALL AXIS THAT THE ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST BEYOND THIS CLIMAX SHOULD DIVIDE TO THE RIGHT AND LEFT AND THAT THE AXIS SHOULD BE RECEIVED WITHOUT FURTHER CENTRAL ACCENTUATION INTO THE BROAD LANDSCAPE OF THE RIVER AND ITS WOODED WESTERN BACKGROUND STOP BUT ALSO IN RELATION TO THE NORTHERN ROUTE FOR THE LEE BOULEVARD I BELIEVE THAT TO TERMINATE ITS CURVILINEAR PORTION AT SUCH A CIRCLE NEAR THE RIVER BANK BUT REMOTELY OFFSET LATERALLY FROM THE BRIDGE AXIS WOULD SEEM ILLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURALLY INEFFECTIVE AND THAT THE ROAD ALINGMENT WHICH IT WOULD INVOLVE WOULD BE INCONVENIENT AND IRRITATING IN USE AS AN APPROACH TO THE BRIDGE.

FREDERICK LAW OLMSTEAD

1855NS SEPT.15

EXHIBIT B

COPY

September 19, 1930.

Dear Mr. Olmsted:

Your telegram with regard to the Columbia Island development was read to the Commission of Fine Arts by Major Gillette and the points you made were carefully considered.

The omission of the two temples in the centers of the circles at the terminals of the cross axis of the Columbia Island Plaza, thus presenting an unbroken wooded area, seems to the Commission to do away with the objection that you had. Now this cross axis is in no way related to the central Washington composition. This complete break between the Washington composition and the Columbia Island composition is still further emphasized by the shortening of the cross axis so as to accommodate a drawing of the Lee Highway closer to the wall of Arlington Cemetery.

The Commission was entirely in accord with you as to your fundamental principal to terminate the central Washington composition at the Lincoln Memorial, and they were convinced that this has been accomplished. They appreciate your advice.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted,
Brookline, Massachusetts.

EXHIBIT H-1

C O P Y

September 19, 1930.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on September 16th approved the drawings, 6E7-1, 6E7-2a, 6E7-2b, and 6E7-2c, grading plans for the construction of the parkway extending from the Boundary Channel Bridge to the memorial entrance to the Arlington National Cemetery.

The design of the architects, McKim, Mead and White, for the terrace of the terminus in Arlington National Cemetery is approved, including a fountain as a terminal motive.

The Commission gave consideration to the designs submitted by the architects, McKim, Mead and White, through Mr. Lawrence White, for the memorial columns to be erected on Columbia Island Plaza. The Commission approved the design as submitted, showing a fluted column. As for the sculpture at the base of the columns, the Commission believed that this question can best be settled when a model shall be made of one of the columns.

The Commission is opposed to any change in the adopted roadway scheme extending from the Columbia Island Plaza, other than a moderate shortening of the cross-axis to accommodate the Lee Highway connection.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT H-2

C O P Y

September 19, 1930.

Dear Major Stuart:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on September 16, 1930, were pleased to consider with you and Mr. Norcross, Engineer of the Forest Service, the question of a design for the proposed Roosevelt Memorial to be erected at Marias Pass on the Continental Divide in Montana. As was brought out during the discussion that as shown by communications from the architects, $25,000 is inadequate for even a small arch of stone. In that great space even the colossal Arch of Triumph in Paris would look insignificant and would prove a disappointment to Representative Scott Leavitt of Montana and to the Forest Service. The Commission, therefore, could not recommend the use of an arch as a memorial at Marias Pass.

The use of an obelisk as an appropriate marker suggested itself to the Commission, and it is understood that one of suitable size could be built from Montana stone for $25,000. As another alternative the Commission have felt that a suitable memorial within the $25,000 cost limit could be secured in the form of a mound and at the roadside, where it would serve its high intended purpose without seeming to enter into an unsuccessful conflict with Nature in its grand mood.

In view of the fact that the amount of $25,000 appropriated is inadequate for a suitable memorial archway and the fact that if a design is adopted other than an archway a change will be required in the enabling Act, the Commission of Fine Arts respectfully recommend that you take this matter up with Congress for appropriate action.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Major R. Y. Stuart, Chief,
Forest Service,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT I

C O P Y

September 1c, 1930.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on September 16, 1930, were much pleased to have the opportunity to discuss with you, Assistant Secretary Heath, and Mr. Waddy Wood, Arcnitect, the designs prepared for remodeling the State, War and Navy Building as a State Department Building on the west side of the White House to correspond with the Treasury Department Building on the east side.

The Commission favor design No. 3, with certain modifications which you and the Commission brought to the attention of the architect and which will be made the subject of further study by him. The Commission approve the design generally, but it is understood that a model will be made of a portion of the building as proposed to be altered, so that the design can be studied in more detail.

The members of the Commission were impressed with the apparent success of the general scheme of reconstruction. But they also were made aware of the inherent difficulties in detail consequent on changing an old building designed in a now abandoned architectural style to make it conform to a still older building which has successfully stood the test of time.

The success of the new venture will depend not so much on copying details of the Treasury Building as in redesigning a building corresponding in architectural feeling and in its fundamental principles to the Treasury Building. These considerations can best be studied in such a model as has been agreed to.

The Commission noted that Mr. Wood proposes to have the grounds surrounding the building, on the north side, level with the street. He proposes to make use of the space underneath for the parking of offical automobiles. The Commission of Fine Arts have always deplored the sunken space on the north side of the present Treasury Department Building and have no hesitation in saying it will improve the appearance of the Treasury Department Building eventually to bring the sunken area up to the street level. Studies made at the time that the Treasury Annex was built show this to be feasible. It would be desirable if this could be done while the State, War and Navy Building is being remodeled.

EXHIBIT J

It is understood that the granite selected for the exterior of the remodeled State Department Building will harmonize as nearly as possible with that of the Treasury Department Building.

The Commission will be pleased to confer with you further as the plans shall be developed.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

Honorable Andrew W. Mellon,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

Chairman.

C O P Y

September 25, 1930.

Sir:

Supplementing the letter addressed to you under date of September 18, in regard to the plans of Mr. Waddy Wood for the remodeled State Department Building, the Commission of Fine Arts wish to state that in their opinion plan No. 5, which is similar to plan No. 3 but shows pediments on the pavilions similar to those of the Treasury Department Building, is equally acceptable to the Commission of Fine Arts. It is understood that you wish to have a model constructed of the south portion of the building to illustrate both schemes. This should be done.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Honorable Andrew W. Mellon,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J-1

C O P Y

September 18, 1930.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on September 16, 1930, were pleased to inspect the plans submitted by you and Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, Surgeon General, Public Health Service, for the Public Health Service Building to be located on B Street between Nineteenth and Twentieth Streets, Northwest. The Commission noted that his plans call for a building of white marble designed in accordance with classical precedents and having an adequate landscape setting, thereby making it a part of the frame for the Lincoln Memorial.

The Commission approved the tentative design B, with certain recommendations made to the architect, Mr. J. H. de Sibour. These include changing the height of the two main stories so as to increase the height of the pilasters; also a restudy of the end pavilions, and where the architect shows a double window to separate the parts with stone mullions.

The Commission desire especially to lay emphasis on the fact that the architectural success of a building designed in any general style depends on the spirit put into it by the architect--by the manner in which he handles the style adopted. The Commission can make suggestions to the architect, but he alone can create the design. The opportunity here presented is inspiring.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

Chairman.

Honorable Andrew W. Mellon,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT K

C O P Y

CASS GILBERT - ARCHITECT
244 Madison Avenue - New York

September 8, 1930.

U. S. Supreme Court.

Hon. David Lynn,
Architect of the Capitol,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letters of August 23rd and September 6th, and your telegram of September 6th, relative to the site of the new Supreme Court Building, I have read the pamphlet entitled "Zoning Regulations of the District of Columbia" which you forwarded to me, especially with reference to paragraphs on pages 23 to 28, inclusive. I recommend that the requirements stated therein should be strictly adhered to for all new buildings in the vicinity of the Supreme Court.

Referring to the building now located on the north side of Maryland Avenue extending east from First Street, I am informed that its present height is 71' from the first floor line to the parapet and that the first floor line is at grade 87.09. It is desired by the present owners to extend this building easterly toward Second Street and to continue the cornice and parapet line at the same height as the present building. A literal interpretation of the law would seem to imply that this addition should be at a lower level. I have been shown the design of the proposed addition, and I believe that if the addition is made at the same height as the existing building it would present a better architectural appearance than though the addition were lowered to comply with the 60' limitation stated in paragraph 10, page 26, of the pamphlet referred to. In other words, that this addition at the level of the existing cornice line would not be objectionable from the standpoint of the Supreme Court Building.

The height of the parapet of the Supreme Court Building, on the facade next south of Maryland Avenue, would be 59' 7" above our assumed datum of grade 91. or 65' 1" above the grade at the southeast corner of Maryland Avenue and First Street.

From information received from Mr. J. Lee Wilkinson, architect of the proposed addition, the height of the parapet of the addition would be 72' 6" above the curb at the southeast corner of Maryland Avenue and First Street, or 7' 5" higher than the parapet at the north facade of the Supreme Court Building.

The distance from the northwest corner of the Supreme Court Building to the existing building above referred to is approximately 195', while the distance from the northeast corner would be approximately 335' from the addition. The height of the main cornice of the central section of the Supreme Court Building will be 90' 10-1/2" above the grade at the southeast corner of First Street and Maryland Avenue.

With these figures in mind, I recommend that the proposed addition to the building on the north side of Maryland Avenue should be permitted to have the same cornice and parapet line as the existing building on the westerly section of that plottage. This recommendation is made on the assumption that the triangle between the north side of Maryland Avenue, the south side of B Street, the east side of First Street and the west side of Second Street will probably remain as a site for buildings. If the entire site between the above mentioned streets could be acquired by the Government, and all buildings removed from it, it would be advantageous to the Supreme Court Building, the Senate Office Building and other Government buildings in the neighborhood as an addition to the park area in that vicinity, but if it is to remain a site for buildings I see no objection to the addition of the existing building having the same height as the existing structure, as above stated.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Cass Gilbert.

Architect.

G:W

P.S. I am sending you print of drawing SK-83, showing the relation between the heights of the cornice lines of the Supreme Court Building and the House and Senate Office Buildings.

I expect to transmit tomorrow similar prints showing relation of the heights of the cornice lines of the Supreme Court Building to the National Capitol and to the Library of Congress.

P.P.S. Since the above was written the heights of the buildings have all been shown on one sheet - which is enclosed herewith.

(C.G.)

Enc.

(EXHIBIT L)

C O P Y

September 18, 1930.

Sirs:

The Commission of Fine Arts when called upon to consider the plans for a proposed extension of the Methodist Church Office Building, at First Street and Maryland Avenue, Northeast, were confronted with a fundamental consideration involving a question which must be decided definitely by Congress.

The Plan of 1901 lays down as an axiom that all the spaces around the Capitol should be occupied by public buildings related to legislative work.

The Library of Congress had been completed in 1897. Senate and House Office Buildings on the squares now occupied were in contemplation in 1901, and subsequently were constructed.

Also it was then the consensus of opinion that the Supreme Court Building (when the inevitable time came for a removal of that Court from the Capitol) should occupy the square between East Capitol Street and Maryland Avenue, and that Maryland Avenue should not be closed as Pennsylvania Avenue unfortunately has been closed by the Library Building.

All of these anticipated improvements have been made. In addition, Congress has also either acquired, or authorized taking of all the additional squares about the Capitol Grounds except one square on the south and this one square on the east now occupied in part by the Methodist Church Building and in part by private residences.

In all human probability these two remaining squares will eventually be taken over by the Government, as should happen for obvious reasons. But at present they have not been so taken. The square on the east, in its present condition (part office building and part domestic architecture of a style that has disappeared beyond revival), presents an awkward and undignified appearance entirely out of keeping with its neighbors, the Supreme Court Building now under construction and the Senate Office Building.

The Commission of Fine Arts, however cannot base their recommendations on the assumption that Congress will authorize the purchase of this particular square. The decision must be made on the basis of existing conditions. The situation is complicated by a zoning regulation which limits the height of new constructions in this area to 60 feet, whereas the Methodist Church Building already constructed, has a height of 72 feet.

EXHIBIT L-1

At the instance of the Fine Arts Commission, the advice of the architect of the Supreme Court Building (an original member of the Commission of Fine Arts and thoroughly conversant with their traditions) was asked. In answering the inquiry, he premised his answer on the unfortunate existing private ownership of the square in question. But, he advised, if such an extension must take place, a uniform height of 72 feet is preferable to a drop to 60 feet for the addition.

Such also is the independent unanimous decision of the Commission of Fine Arts.

The recommendation of this Commission, therefore, is that a permit be granted to erect an extension of the present Methodist Office Building, of limestone, to conform in architectural design to the present building, and of the same height, namely, 72 feet.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia,

Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

September 17, 1930.

My dear Colonel Grant:

In reply to your letter of August 4, concerning the proposed Fine Arts Exhibition for the George Washington Bicentennial, I am pleased to inform you that we have taken up this matter and the Commission of Fine Arts recommend to you for your approval the preliminary program attached hereto. Mr. Weinman would supervise the exhibition of American sculpture, and he is taking up this matter with the National Sculpture Society. Certain other suggestions will be made by members of the Commission from time to time. The Commission appreciates Dr. Wetmore's interest and cooperation in this matter and as soon as I receive your favorable endorsement to this preliminary program, I shall be glad to communicate with him and with other establishments of the Government and institutions mentioned in the program.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant, 3d, Associate Director,
George Washington Bicentennial Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT M

The Congress of the United States has provided that as one of the features of the celebration of the bicentennial of the birth of George Washington (to be observed during 1932) a commemorative medal shall be prepared.

By law the approval of the design of this medal rests with the Commission of Fine Arts.

The Bicentennial Commission has asked the advice and assistance of a committee made up of the present sculptor member (Mr. Weinman) and the former sculptor members (Messrs. French, Adams, Fraser, and Taft).

This committee has recommended:

First, That the coinage of the United States silver half-dollars during the calendar year 1932 be a half-dollar having a commemorative design; that the obverse shall bear a head of Washington based on the Houdon bust at Mount Vernon.

The modelling and execution of this head are considered of first importance. A series of photographs (taken by Mr. Olmsted of the National Museum) will be furnished to the recipient of this letter on application to the Commission of Fine Arts.

The design of the reverse is left to the sculptor, with the proviso that it shall be national in conception.

Second, That the model also shall have on the obverse the Houdon head of Washington, and on the reverse a distinct design national in character.

Third, That one sculptor be selected to design both the coin (If Congress shall so provide) and the medal (already provided for).

Fourth, That five sculptors who have won recognition as medalists be invited to enter a competition for the selection of a design as above outlined; that each of the invited persons submitting sketches be paid an honorarium of $200.

Fifth, That the person selected as designer shall receive an additional $2,500 for his completed models and for his supervision of the work of production at the United States Mint; and that he shall receive an additional $300 for the reverse design of the coin. The cost of the dies will not be borne by the designer.

Sixth, That each competitor shall submit in plastic form one design for each for obverse and reverse of the medal. The designs for the coin will be considered when and if Congress shall so provide.

Seventh, That all sketches submitted shall conform to a diameter of approximately 6". The sketches must be sufficiently worked out to show the general composition and height of relief. All sketches must be submitted in plaster tinted with white shellac.

Eighth, That all sketches be submitted anonymously, marked with a cipher and accompanied by an opaque envelope bearing only the cipher and containing the name and address of the competitor.

Ninth, That the Washington Bicentennial Commission shall own the accepted models and shall have the exclusive use of the designs. That the Commission reserves the right of rejecting any or all designs.

Tenth, That sketches be received by the Commission of Fine Arts, Interior Department Building, Washington, D. C., not later than December 31, 1930.

Eleventh, That the decision as to the designer be made by the Commission of Fine Arts, and the successful artist be recommended to the George Washington Bicentennial Commission for the production of the final models for the medal, and also for the coin if authorized by Congress.

Note. Mr. Weinman and Mr. Fraser gave notice that their names could not be considered in making up the list of sculptors to be invited. Also, Mr. Fraser having participated in the preparation of the general program, asked to be relieved from further service on the committee, including the consideration of the names of sculptors to be selected to enter the competition.

COPY

September 17, 1930.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on September 16, 1930, considered the draft of the program of competition for the George Washington Bicentennial Medal, and a copy of the draft as agreed upon is attached hereto and submitted to you for your approval. Please inform me at your earliest convenience whether I shall write to the five sculptors selected to enter the competition or whether you will write to them. I expect to be able to give you in a few days the list of the five sculptors selected.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant, 3d,
Associate Director,
George Washington Bicentennial Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B

C O P Y

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE COMMISSION

Navy Building

Washington

September 11, 1930.

Mr. Charles Moore,
Chairman, The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Dept. Building,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Sculptural Groups at East End of Arlington Memorial Bridge.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter and enclosure just received from Mr. Friedlander. Attention is invited to the fact that Mr. Friedlander's estimate covers the general massing as indicated in his competitive drawings, with no more than two figures and a horse in each group and the addition of an infant figure in one of the groups, EXCEPT that the voids under the figures and horses will be solid stone.

I would appreciate it if the Fine Arts Commission would give this matter consideration at its next meeting and let me know whether or not this change is acceptable.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) U. S. Grant, 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer.

Encls. 2 .

EXHIBIT O

C O P Y

September 22, 1930.

Dear Colonel Grant:

I brought your letter of September 11, with its enclosures of copies of letters from Leo Friedlander regarding sculptural groups at the east end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, to the attention of Mr. Weinman at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on September 16. So far as the estimate is concerned, $134,000 for the two sculptural groups by Mr. Friedlander to be placed at the east end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge is the same as was agreed upon for Mr. Fraser's groups at the entrance to the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway at the Lincoln Memorial Circle. So far as comparison of the groups by Mr. Friedlander and Mr. Fraser is concerned, Mr. Weinman says that in the absence of models of Mr. Fraser's figures, this will be impossible.

We shall be glad to take up this matter further at the next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, October 16 and 17. On October 17, Friday, we propose to go to Wakefield and hope you can join us.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT O-1